# **AQA A-level Geography**

# **Human Geography**

The answers in this document attempt to provide a comprehensive coverage of alternative and possible responses to the questions in the workbook, although other responses may be valid. The nature of the exam questions and allocation of the assessment objectives in the exams for this specification aim to credit a very wide range of responses. In most cases, where questions require an extended prose response, the examiner has no, single, 'model' answer. Therefore, the material below is presented in bullet point form as indicative content of relevant material that could be included in a response to each question, rather than a 'model' answer.

For Topic 2 Changing places, the nature of the study means that many different 'places' are likely to be investigated, in line with the specification requirements, as it is open to individual choice. Consequently, the answers for Topic 2 questions are of a generic nature and offer guidelines on indicative content rather than reference to specific places studied. Occasionally, specific places may be referred to as examples for further clarification and guidance.

The exam-style questions are either point marked (4 mark questions), for which credit points are indicated in this document, or level marked. The levels criteria for the exam-style questions are generic. These generic descriptors are different for each of the three assessment objectives (AO1, AO2 and AO3). The appropriate descriptors for each level of each of the assessment objectives can be found on the AQA website.

# Topic 1

# Global systems and global governance

### Globalisation

- 1 Globalisation involves increasing flows of:
  - capital
  - labour
  - products
  - services
  - information
- Note: If directed to 'distinguish between', the answer must emphasise the differences between the features in the question.
  - Production is the nature or stage at which goods are manufactured from raw materials to the point when they are ready for delivery.
  - In the primary industry sector, production includes the extraction of raw materials, such as mineral ores or energy resources; the harvesting of agricultural products, fish stocks and timber; or the harnessing of energy from renewable resources.
  - Distribution involves the networks and organisational routes through which goods are transported or delivered to their markets.
  - Consumption is the act of purchasing the goods for final/end use.

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- Similar products are mass produced and marketed by companies on an international scale.
- People across the world have access to the same popular products and the marketing of these products often crosses cultural boundaries.
- The over-standardisation of many goods and services has led to increased cultural similarity or homogeneity with the same 'wants' being generated across national and cultural barriers.
- This has damaged individual traditions and means less diversity.
- This access to foreign (mainly Western) goods/services is causing the desire for culturally distinctive and diverse goods to fade.

### 4 Textile and clothing manufacture:

- Demand for 'fast fashion' and cheaper clothes has led to the need for manufacturers to dramatically cut production costs.
- As wages form a large part of production costs many manufacturers have outsourced production from Western Europe and the USA to emerging economies and low income countries like China and Bangladesh.
- Containerisation has reduced transport costs considerably meaning clothing no longer needs to be produced close to the market.
- Due to increasing access to various media, including film and television, music videos
  and the internet in recent decades, cultural assimilation has been a feature of the
  fashion industry. Manufacturers can develop trends that can be mass produced,
  globally marketed and sold across the world, leading to economies of scale.
- High value activities such as research, design and marketing functions are often centralised in fashionable hubs, usually in high income countries in Western Europe and North America, and increasingly in China.
- Globalised communication means back office and production activities do not need to be located in the same country.

### 5 Technology

- Advanced machinery, tools and materials (including robot technology) increase production and reduce costs, making goods more accessible to larger markets.
- This technology can be transferred to developing/less developed economies where production costs are still cheaper and more markets for the goods are available.
- Communication technologies such as the internet/world wide web; physical communications such as satellite technology or optical fibre cable systems give more people a greater awareness and understanding of other countries and cultures.

### Communications

- The increasing use of digital communication devices computers, smartphones, televisions, the internet as well as other types of communication technology, including fax machines, have provided speedier means of conducting international business (see communications).
- International communication methods such as email, texting, telephone, video linking and television coverage, faxing and other methods have enabled improved contact between businesses in different countries.

 Increasing use of written and spoken English as the international language of business enables negotiations and deals to be made more easily.

#### Economic/financial

- Deregulation of financial markets mean the activities of financial institutions such as banks are no longer confined within national boundaries.
- Scope for development in less developed/developing economies creates growth that can lead to regional and even global multiplier effects (e.g. growth of Asian 'tiger' economies, BRIC and MINT).
- Growth inspires:
  - o more trade (and interdependence) of goods and services between countries
  - o rise of large TNCs which have the opportunity to invest in new/more countries
  - increased flow of capital investment between countries or economic/political groupings of nations
- Influence of global scale financial institutions such as the IMF, World Bank and WTO that operate on a global scale.

### **Transnational corporations**

- Operate on a global level seek new areas of production and new markets.
- Organise production and distribution across international boundaries.
- Invest in many regions, transferring technology and skills as well as capital.
- Responsible for global marketing of goods and services and more homogenisation.
- More outsourcing of production from higher to lower income economies.

### **Transport**

- Speedier and larger modes of transport can carry more goods in less time making transport relatively cheap and efficient.
- Containerisation reduces time and costs and allows integrated transfer of containerised goods between different modes of transport including ships or aeroplanes, trains and lorries.

### Trade agreements

- Encourage easier and freer movement of goods with fewer barriers.
- Enable easier movement of capital, and in some cases labour, so that financial and cultural barriers are disintegrated, giving the impression of a 'smaller world'.
- Encourage more cooperation and interdependence between countries.
- Allow TNCs to globalise their operations more freely and give them more power and influence.

### **Political**

- Development of trading groups and customs unions enables easier movement of goods and services.
- Governments can seek to encourage foreign investment by giving incentives.
- Government encouragement of exports supporting home-based industries to increase exports. Can include overseas diplomacy and bilateral agreements with other countries.
- The influence of institutions such as the WTO encourages free trade and free movement of goods. Global financial institutions such as the IMF help to channel

- capital flows, loans and aid to assist developing countries to develop and attract investment.
- The end of the Cold War and the collapse of Communism in the early 1990s was seen as an important part of the globalisation process as new economies and markets were opened up in Russia and in China.

### Management and labour

- More cultural diffusion enables easier economic migration.
- Transfer of skills, and improved education and training in many countries equip employees to work in a more globalised world.
- Management and labour become more competitive, which drives down costs of production as producers seek the cheapest means of production.

### 6 Advantages

### On a global scale

- Improve global peace and security and reduce conflict.
- Increase global trade and cooperation on trade issues.
- Help members develop their economies and standard of living.

### Regionally (within each group)

- Compete on a global level with other trading entities.
- Give greater representation in world affairs.
- Allow freedom of movement of trade.
- Allow people seeking work to move between countries more easily.
- Negotiate trade advantages as a group with other groups.
- Possibly develop a common currency to prevent currency fluctuations and simplify transactions.
- Support particular sectors of a national economy (e.g. agriculture within the EU).
- Share technological advances.
- Receive support for remote regions or declining industrial regions from the larger organisation (e.g. the EU Regional Fund helps regions such as southern Italy and western Ireland).
- Raise standards in education and healthcare across the region.
- Spread democracy, human rights and possible political and legal integration (e.g. the EU).
- Attract investment from large TNCs that want to locate within the group to give them free access to large markets – this can help unemployment and regional development in some areas.

#### **Disadvantages**

- Loss of sovereignty decisions are centralised by what some see as an undemocratic bureaucracy (e.g. one of the reasons for British voters to leave the EU).
- Loss of financial controls to a central authority such as a bank (e.g. European Central Bank, which oversees monetary policy in the eurozone).
- Pressure to adopt central legislation (e.g. in Europe, food standards and labelling).

- Certain economic sectors are damaged by having to share resources (e.g. the UK sharing its traditional fishing grounds with other EU nations such as Spain and France).
- If the trade agreement includes freedom of movement of labour (such as in the EU) some argue that as more labour moves to the higher-paying nations/regions within the trading bloc this will drive wages down and/or lead to unemployment.

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- Avoid just listing effects of globalisation; this 'link' question needs you to make clear reference to the lived experience of people in the named place.
- If globalisation involves increasing flows (see question 1), then identify specific impacts of:
  - investment/loss of capital
  - gain/loss of employment opportunities
  - gain/loss of availability of certain products
  - o gain/loss of access to services
  - gain/loss of access to information
- In terms of impacts on the lives of people, there must be use of ideas from the Changing Places topic. Lived experience could be thought of as what people think about, feel and do in a place.
- Assess how globalisation has affected:
  - people's perception of the place
  - people's sense of belonging
  - what people do at home/at work/for leisure and recreation

# Global systems

#### 8 Economic

Bilateral trade agreements such as UK–Bangladesh, trade blocs such as USMCA and customs unions such as the EU are all examples of economic interdependence where countries involved in the agreements should benefit from economic cooperation, free trade or reduced trade barriers to assist development. There is some crossover here into political agreements, as most trade agreements for economic benefit are associated with political cooperation and interdependence. Resource agreements such as the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) could also be seen as being politically motivated but OPEC's members are so politically diverse with different global allegiances that it is primarily an economic force of interdependent countries wanting to maximise their dominance of one global market for oil by controlling supply to influence prices.

Other valid economic interdependence includes the involvement of TNCs, particularly those exploring for raw materials, in less developed or developing countries as they bring much-needed capital, technology and expertise to help develop reserves. However, many people would argue that this is exploitation and that poorer countries gain little from this involvement.

Economic interdependence could equally be the reliance of poorer countries on richer countries for financial support, either through loans (usually involving the World Bank) or through bilateral or UN multilateral aid.

#### **Political**

As mentioned above, many economic agreements have political associations so the EU would be an example of political interdependence and cooperation, with a central EU parliament making laws (Directives) that apply across countries.

There are also military or strategic alliances such as the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) developed during the Cold War but which still exists to give mutual military protection to its member states.

The African Union is another example of political interdependence formed to promote cooperation among the independent nations of Africa.

#### Social

UN development agencies provide practical support and assistance to the least developed countries in the form of multilateral aid or development funding. A number of countries acting together through the UN may be more effective in supporting healthcare or education, as individual donor countries might not be welcome.

Equally, bilateral arrangements may be in place between richer and poorer countries, where the richer country contributes through aid or funding programmes to either general or specific aspects of development. For example, the Canadian government fund a child vaccination programme in the Gambia with the aim of reducing infant mortality.

Non-governmental organisations (NGOs) contribute enormously to social development in health and education in developing countries, as well as raising awareness of development issues in richer developed nations. They often provide a catalyst for more interdependence.

#### **Environmental**

There is some concern among richer nations that poorer countries will develop with little consideration for the environmental impacts that economic progress might bring. This could be thought to be hypocritical on the part of developed nations. It could equally be seen as a selfish concern as developed countries are primarily focused on trying to mitigate global climate change and much of the interdependence involves persuading those poorer countries with rainforests to conserve it so that more carbon dioxide is absorbed. For example, the German government funds forest management schemes to conserve forest in the Gambia. Conservation swaps are financial transactions in which a portion of a developing nation's foreign debt is written off in exchange for local investments in environmental conservation measures.

9 Role of major intergovernmental institutions of World Economic Order

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Institution	Role in promoting stability, cooperation and development within global systems	
International Monetary Fund	Oversees the global financial system	
	Offers financial and technical assistance to its members	
	Only provides loans if it will prevent an economic crisis – international 'lender of last resort'	
	Provides loans to help members tackle balance of payments problems and stabilise their economies	
	Draws its financial resources from the quota subscriptions of member countries	
	At the hub of international financial transactions and can influence the nature of these, ensuring fairness and transparency which reduces disputes	
World Bank	Promotes economic development in developing countries	
	Provides long-term investment loans for development projects with the aim of reducing poverty	
	• Via the International Development Association (IDA), provides special interest-free loans to poor countries with low incomes, below an established GNI per capita level (less than US\$1,185 per year in 2021).	
	Encourages start-up private enterprises in developing countries	
	Acquires financial resources by borrowing on the international bond market	
	<ul> <li>Like the IMF, is at the hub of financial transactions – specifically with developing countries – also exists largely to engender fairness and cooperation to assist development</li> </ul>	
World Trade Organization	Deals with the global rules of trade between nations	
	Encourages and supervises the liberalisation of trade by reducing barriers	
	Acts as an arbitrator sorting out trade problems between member governments	
	<ul> <li>Negotiates to reach agreements that become legal ground rules for international commerce</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Provides stability by giving trading nations confidence that there will be no sudden policy changes</li> </ul>	

The relative success of these institutions can only be evaluated in general terms, though students may wish to research more specific operations or transactions to support their arguments – for example, the IMF's rescue package for Iceland, World Bank loans to Brazil or the WTO Doha Development Agenda. While all have achieved some successes in promoting stability and development, there have also been criticisms levelled against them. The assessment should therefore include a balance of positive and negative statements about the chosen organisation (as shown below). These may be quantified if referring to specific examples.

### International Monetary Fund

#### **Positives**

- Has provided some global financial stability since the end of the Second World War and has prevented the international financial system from collapsing.
- As a lender of last resort, it has 'bailed out' countries on the brink of economic collapse by providing loans and offering support and advice to reinvigorate economic growth.
- Role as a lender provides a confidence boost to potential business investors. The ability of a country to loan money for short-term debt relief can restore confidence in the financial sector and stabilise currency and exchange rates.

- Many developed countries approach the IMF for loans to help steady their economy during difficult periods, which suggests that there are benefits to the central fund.
- The IMF may be unfairly criticised because it is only asked to intervene in difficult
  economic circumstances and it is blamed by national governments who have to make
  negative financial adjustments as a condition of an IMF loan.

### Negatives

- The conditions put in place for loans from the IMF may not have the borrowing country's best interests in mind and may have negative impacts – for example, reducing government borrowing or raising interest rates to stabilise a currency.
- The organisation is dominated by those from the developed world who do not always have a full understanding of the dynamics of the economies they are dealing with in the developing world. The approach reflects the interests and ideology of the Western financial community.
- The IMF has been criticised for allowing inflationary devaluations of currencies.
- It has been criticised from both sides of the economic/political spectrum for
  encouraging capitalism and privatisation when they were not always suitable for the
  conditions in the country and, on the other hand, for being too interventionist and not
  allowing the free market to operate effectively.
- It is also criticised for its lack of consultation with countries affected by crisis and for a lack of transparency in its operations.

#### The World Bank

#### **Positives**

- Provides loans and financial assistance for infrastructure projects in developing countries. This can often be the trigger to encourage further investment and economic development.
- Has been more discerning in its decisions to support projects in recent years; scrutinising developments in terms of sustainability and avoiding corruption.
   Consequently, more sustainable development projects have been fostered.
- Administers debt relief to assist heavily indebted poor countries (the HIPC initiative) in bringing foreign debt down to a manageable level.
- Has two lending arms the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and the International Development Association (IDA).
  - The IBRD borrows money in the financial markets and then lends it to middleincome countries and creditworthy poorer countries at a low interest rate.
  - The IDA gets its funding from international donors such as governments and provides interest-free loans to the poorest/least developed countries.
- Only charges borrowers about three-quarters of a per cent, which means the loans are almost like grants.

#### Negatives

- Like the IMF it is criticised for being dominated by those from a developed world background, imposing potentially harmful conditions on developing countries for repayments of loans.
- NGOs have argued that the HIPC process can take too long, imposing too many complex conditions, and they suggest that more needs to be done on working out what a sustainable amount of debt is for poor countries.

- In the past, it has been guilty of funding many major 'top-down' projects requested by corrupt central governments, which have had little positive economic impact and disastrous environmental consequences.
- Some argue that its investment policy has consolidated the position of corrupt, inefficient and undemocratic regimes and that it prioritises economic growth over other social values, such as human rights.

### The World Trade Organization (WTO)

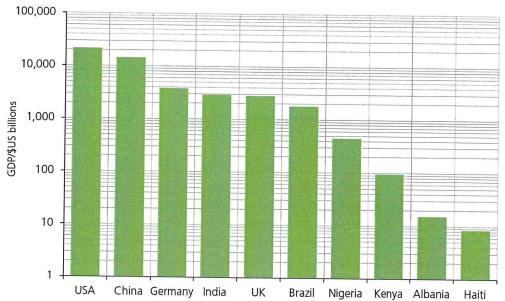
#### **Positives**

- Initially as the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and since 1995 as the WTO, the organisation has undoubtedly been effective in reducing trade restrictions between countries. Trade liberalisation brings many economic and political benefits to all countries.
- It claims that, unlike GATT, its rules of trade have been worked out by the direct involvement of all countries, and not just a few powerful ones.
- It has provided an effective framework for protecting international trade.
- It has been an effective arbitrator in trade wars. The number of settlements of trade disputes rose from 20 in 1990 to 157 in 2007.
- In 2013 in Bali, it achieved a major multilateral trade agreement on trade facilitation to speed up the movement of traded goods and to reduce red tape.

### Negatives

- Despite the change of constitution from GATT to WTO in 1995, critics argue that the organisation has an inbuilt bias favouring developed nations and trading blocs such as the USA and the EU operating against weaker, developing ones. For example, intellectual property laws benefit developed countries at the expense of developing countries, which have to pay more for potentially lifesaving drugs.
- Critics complain that it takes too long to arbitrate and settle disputes. Rounds of talks
  can take many years to reach a compromise between major economic trading
  regions. For example, the Doha Development Agenda that started in 2001 and ended
  in 2015 was hindered throughout by a failure to reach agreements between developed
  regions (EU, North America and Japan) and developing countries.
- Free trade in food and agricultural produce has been a problem because of a failure to agree the degree of subsidisation used in developed countries (USA and EU) to protect farmers from cheap imports.
- Critics argue that the number of agreements made is too few, given the number of
  disputes that exist. However, trade embargoes are often used as a political strategy in
  conflicts between countries, and the WTO has little power to arbitrate in these
  disputes.
- Failure to confront ethical issues resulting from trade for example, the use of child labour or poor working conditions in developing countries.
- Failure to tackle environmental issues resulting from trade for example, the depletion of global fish stocks, deforestation and climate change.
- Failure to secure multilateral trade agreements. It operates as a multilateral
  organisation but member countries and trading blocs favour bilateral negotiations with
  partners or competitors because they can be more focused and completed more
  quickly.

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### 12 a People

- More educated and skilled people will gravitate to where more opportunity exists.
- Higher wages and better working conditions attract people.
- The more adventurous/entrepreneurial are drawn to richer areas.
- Leads to a concentration of human resources in already wealthy areas.
- Leaves poorer areas with fewer human resources both in quantity and level of skills.
- A spiral of decline sets in as the young, educated and skilled leave poorer areas they become poorer.

### b Money

- Investment will be drawn to existing areas that are already developed.
- Poorer areas, because of lack of infrastructure, fail to attract investment.
- Lack of development in poorer areas can lead to shortage of resources to invest in.
- Lack of resources may lead to conflict, which again deters investors.
- Capital may be attracted to resource frontiers where new resources are discovered – gives hope to poorer areas with resources.
- Even in poorer or developing regions that have received capital investment, economic leakages of profits and some wages may be returned to richer countries.

#### c Technology

- Technology will be used where there are opportunities to gain a return from it, usually in developed or richer developing regions.
- Technology transfer to poorer regions does occur but there is little capital, skills or opportunity to develop their own.

- Technology is advanced as a result of research and development, which largely
  occurs in richer parts of the world that have the skills (people) and capital
  (money) to support it.
- Appropriate technology, which is seen as a 'low tech' form of technology
  appropriate to the skill levels and affordability of poorer regions, may help with
  sustainable development but is unlikely to make these regions richer.
- 13 A worked example can be found in your workbook.

# International trade and access to markets

- A customs union is a trading bloc that allows free trade between its member states but imposes a common external tariff barrier when trading with countries outside the bloc.
- They are protecting either established or newly emerging industries within the country from foreign competition. Without the barriers it would be easier for external foreign companies to export into the country. This would mean a greater supply of cheaper goods on the market for consumers, which in turn would potentially undercut domestic suppliers, who could not compete on price (or scale) and may be put out of business.
- 16 Any two of the following:
  - Import licences issued by government authority to help control which goods can be imported; those without licences are excluded.
  - Import quotas governments set a physical limit on the quantity of goods that can be imported into the country.
  - Embargoes the partial or complete prohibition of commerce and trade of particular goods or with a particular country.
  - Tariffs a tax or duty placed on imported goods with the intention of making them
    more expensive to consumers so that they do not sell at a lower price than homebased goods.
  - Other import restrictions may be based on technical or regulatory obstacles such as the quality standards of goods being imported, or the nature of how they are produced.

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- Strategic management usually takes place from company headquarters, based in a major city in the home country. As corporations grow, strategic management may be devolved to subsidiary headquarters in each continent, or in countries where main operations are based.
- Production operations often located in the manufacturing regions of developing countries, for example, in Eastern Europe or South and Southeast Asia. Sometimes production operations are located in traditional industrial areas of developed countries, which have gone into decline. (Regeneration, a pool of skilled labour and government incentives designed to alleviate structural unemployment might be an attraction here.)
- Research and development (R&D) likely to occur in the TNC's home country, either at or near company headquarters, or in locations near top universities/research establishments. As companies grow, R&D may also be devolved regionally.
- Sales and marketing organised globally, on a regional basis with main sales offices located in the countries (or continents) where the main markets for products are located.

#### 18

- Labour considerations lower wages; investment in education so people can learn new skills quickly, which makes it easier to train workers. A good work ethic with workers willing to work long hours, with relatively few holidays. A non-unionised workforce is also preferred. In developed countries a pool of skilled labour with transferable skills may attract investment.
- Government incentives such as tax-free breaks, enterprise zones with low business rates or less restrictive environmental regulations.
- Good infrastructure power and water supplies; airports, roads, railways etc.
- Political and economic stability good governance with little likelihood of conflict.
- 19 Answers must use a named TNC. The following points could be included in your answer.
  - TNCs are influential and can move capital to establish new operations in many countries.
  - To access markets they will locate inside free-trade areas such as USMCA or the EU.
  - This enables the corporation to overcome external trade barriers such as tariffs and have access to the large markets within the free-trade area.
  - For example, Toyota has production, assembly and sales operations in the USA and a major production plant near Derby in the UK, giving it access to the EU market without having to pay external tariffs.
  - In some cases, as with Toyota and Nissan in the UK, incentives were made available
    by the government to attract the TNC to areas that were suffering from
    deindustrialisation.
- 20 The nature of the answer will depend on the food commodity or manufactured product that is chosen.

### World trade in bananas

- Bananas are one of the most important food products within least developed countries and are a staple food for almost half a billion people.
- The volume of bananas produced is the highest of all fruits and is one of the top five consumed fruits.
- Only around 20 per cent of global production is traded internationally.
- Cavendish bananas are the main commercially produced variety, with around 50 million tonnes produced annually.
- Bananas are mainly produced in countries in tropical regions of the world.
- Countries such as India, Brazil and much of tropical Africa produce huge quantities, which are mostly consumed domestically.
- India is the largest grower of bananas and in 2017 produced almost 30 million tonnes;
   China produced 11 million tonnes.
- The main banana exporting countries are found in Central America, Latin America and the Philippines. For some of these countries bananas are one of their most important economic exports.
- Until recently four companies dominated the world trade in bananas Chiquita, Del Monte, Dole and Fyffes (Fyffes merged with Chiquita in 2014.). In 2019 these companies still controlled over 40 per cent of the global industry.

- The EU and USA are the largest importers of bananas, averaging 32 per cent of total global imports between 2010 and 2016. Russia, Japan and China are all also significant importers. The UK is one of the main importers of organically produced bananas.
- Figures on the consumption of bananas are not always clear, but some of the highest levels of consumption per capita are in the Philippines, Brazil, Uganda, Rwanda and Cameroon.
- In 2017 the global banana trade contributed around US\$8 billion to the global economy.
- TNCs have an important role in assisting the development of emerging and less developed economies.

#### **Positives**

- generate jobs and income
- bring new technology
- give workers new skills
- pay taxes to the local and national government
- support the development of infrastructure such as roads, rail, electricity and water supply
- may contribute to the provision of education and healthcare facilities
- can create a multiplier effect on the developing economy through increased consumer spending of its employees and increased public spending by governments from tax revenues

### Negatives

- poor working conditions for employees, long hours etc.
- exploitation of resources
- negative impacts on environment and local culture
- economic leakages profits earned in the developing country by a TNC may be 'repatriated' back to the TNC's home country; there may also be issues of tax avoidance
- Avoid just listing impacts of TNCs. This 'link' question needs you to make clear reference to the carbon cycle.

It is always useful to try to look for both negative and positive impacts.

### Negative

- Raw materials/components and products may now travel greater distances from production in MICs and LICs to markets in HICs → increased emissions of greenhouse gases from transport → carbon transferred to the atmosphere store.
- TNCs may have located production in countries with few environmental regulations → increased greenhouse gas emissions from factories → carbon transferred to the atmosphere store.
- It could be argued that TNCs have enabled the growth of a 'consumer' and 'throw away' culture of many products with plastic as a component → carbon is a key element in plastic → impact on major stores of carbon.

#### Positive

- Many TNCs are some of the most innovative and technologically advanced businesses → production processes may be more efficient than other industries → lower greenhouse gas emissions → less carbon transferred to the atmosphere store.
- Finding economies of scale is a key feature of TNCs → greenhouse gas emissions
  relating to production and transport may be lower per unit produced → relatively less
  carbon transferred to the atmosphere store.

## Global governance

- 23 Global governance is complex and difficult to achieve for the following reasons:
  - Different levels of development less developed and developing countries aspire to 'catch up' economically (and socially) with higher income countries. Countries have different economic aims and goals.
  - Different ideologies and political objectives most countries attempt to increase their sphere of influence for their own benefit. These spheres can often overlap, giving rise to geopolitical tensions or conflict.
  - Different societies and cultures make global governance difficult there is usually suspicion, which can lead to lack of cooperation in global matters.
  - Scarcity of many resources will raise the stakes in terms of what countries are
    prepared to do to secure more resources for themselves cooperation is sometimes a
    more difficult choice regarding resource issues, particularly if other differences
    between countries, such as those listed above, prevail.

#### 24

- The policies may seek to attract investment from TNCs. In LICs and MICs these often offer better pay, conditions and opportunities than local employers. Those with the education and skill levels required to work for the TNC could see a significant improvement in living standards, leading to increased inequality.
- Often those who are more educated and affluent to begin with will gain from investment and benefit more from any growth, while others remain in poverty.
- If development policies are top-down and do not take account of the views of local
  populations when being implemented, the rights of some groups may not be
  considered and injustices may occur. For example, local populations being moved
  from land to make way for new infrastructure or industry.

Illustrate your response with specific examples.

As part of the globalisation process NGOs have expanded their scope from local and national settings and have increasingly become 'international' organisations.

In the twenty-first century NGOs have emerged as a global force to:

- democratise decision making (e.g. persuading governments to consider 'bottom-up' approaches)
- protect human rights
- provide essential services to the most needy

There is a distinction to be made between operational and campaigning NGOs:

 Operational NGOs are those providing front-line support services to the needy (e.g. Oxfam) – they tend to raise money for each project they undertake.

 Campaigning (or advocacy) NGOs are those which focus on campaigns to raise awareness to gain support for a cause (e.g. Friends of the Earth).

NGOs work increasingly in partnership with other stakeholders like governments and other international organisations such as the UN and its various branches.

With greater communication and awareness of issues, many international NGOs such as Amnesty International, Médecins sans Frontières and Greenpeace have emerged.

They draw together people focusing on global issues and do not tie themselves to the interests of any particular nation or government.

### 26 The Sustainable Development Goal objectives:

- Goal 1 End poverty in all its forms everywhere.
- Goal 2 End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.
- Goal 3 Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages.
- Goal 4 Ensure inclusive and equitable education and promote lifelong learning and opportunities for all.
- Goal 5 Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.
- Goal 6 Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.
- Goal 7 Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.
- Goal 8 Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.
- Goal 9 Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation.
- Goal 10 Reduce inequality within and among countries.
- Goal 11 Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.
- Goal 12 Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.
- Goal 13 Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.
- Goal 14 Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.
- Goal 15 Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.
- Goal 16 Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.
- Goal 17 Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development.

### 27 UN Development Programme (UNDP)

UNDP works in some 170 countries and territories, helping to achieve the eradication of poverty and the reduction of inequalities and exclusion. It assists countries in developing policies, leadership skills, partnering abilities, institutional capabilities and in building resilience in order to sustain development results.

UNDP regards inclusive growth, better services, environmental sustainability, good governance and security as fundamental to development progress. It provides expertise in development thinking and practice, to support countries to meet their development aspirations and to bring the voices of the world's peoples into discussions. As a UN organisation it can be viewed as implementing a top-down approach but it does encourage a bottom-up philosophy in its work.

### **UN Environmental Programme (UNEP)**

UNEP is the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda, promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system and serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment.

#### The work of UNEP includes:

- assessing global, regional and national environmental conditions and trends
- developing international and national environmental strategies
- strengthening other institutions for the sustainable management of the environment

UNEP's current priority is to address the challenges of climate change by strengthening the ability of countries, especially developing countries, to integrate climate change responses into their development process.

#### Sustainable Development Goals

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are officially known as 'Transforming our World'. The goals were set in September 2015 with a 15-year target – the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The SDGs are led by the UN and include an intergovernmental set of aspiration goals with 169 targets. These targets build on the success of the MDGs and aim to go further to end all forms of poverty. The new goals are unique in that they call for action by all countries, poor, rich and middle income, to promote prosperity while protecting the planet. They recognise that ending poverty must go hand-in-hand with strategies that build economic growth and address a range of social needs including education, health, social protection and job opportunities. There is also an emphasis on tackling climate change and addressing environmental protection.

## The 'global commons': Antarctica

- 28 International law recognises four global commons:
  - the High Seas
  - the Atmosphere
  - Antarctica
  - Outer Space

### Explanation (either is correct):

- The four 'global commons' listed are recognised as such because they are 'resource domains' or areas that lie outside the political control of any one nation.
- They are supranational 'spaces' in which common or shared resources can be found.
- Shared 'common access resources' of any type are likely to be overexploited because they are freely available to any interested developers or entrepreneurs. If individual companies or countries act independently and according to their self-interest, this will be contrary to the interest of the whole group (of nations) because the shared resource will become depleted.

This is exactly what has happened on a global scale to fish stocks, which have been overfished leading to depletion, marine pollution and loss of sustainability.

There is a danger for Antarctica because of the many natural resources that are known to exist there with no individual nation to protect them. There is also a problem for the atmosphere as it will become polluted by polluters from many nations with no one nation taking responsibility for its care.

There is therefore a need for international law and clear rules of global governance to protect the commons from overexploitation.

30



- 31 a
- Antarctica's mountainous and rocky terrain is almost entirely (97 per cent) covered by glacial ice.
- Much of the continent's coastline is fringed by ice shelves. The continent is unevenly divided by the Transantarctic Mountain range, which contains peaks of over 4,000 m above sea level.
- **b** Antarctica is the coldest, windiest and the driest continent.
  - Climatic features vary considerably between coastal zones and the interior.
  - Conditions on the high interior plateau explain why much of Antarctica is considered to be a polar desert – higher elevation, higher latitude and greater distance from the ocean.
  - Average temperature of −57°C in the interior (−10°C on the coast)
  - Mean annual precipitation of less than 50 mm in the interior. (The average annual precipitation across the whole of Antarctica is 166 mm per annum.)
- 32 The Antarctic Convergence Zone is:
  - an irregular curve at around 60° south encircling Antarctica

- where cold northward-flowing Antarctic waters meet and sink below the relatively warmer sub-Antarctic waters
- a separation of two distinct climatic and hydrological regions, each with distinctive associated wildlife and giving rise to the Antarctic Circumpolar Current, which flows eastwards (west to east)

### The Divergence Zone is:

 where the Antarctic Circumpolar Current meets with the lesser known current, the East Wind Drift, flowing in the opposite direction from east to west and driven by the easterly polar winds

33

Threat	Nature of threat and its potential impact
Climate change	Global warming is melting the polar ice caps, sea ice and land ice.  Western Antarctica in particular is losing a significant amount of land ice and is not gaining any sea ice.  On a local basis this will affect wildlife ecosystems and productivity.  It will affect sea levels on a global scale.
Fishing and whaling	Due to the International Whaling Commission, whaling is now less of a threat.  In the Southern Ocean some species of fish such as Antarctic rock cod are in danger of being overfished.  A loss in the biomass of the shrimp-like krill (which is being targeted by humans for its health benefits) is of concern as it is fundamental to the food web and will affect other species.
Search for mineral resources	Antarctica has sizeable mineral deposits; these are not thought to be economically viable to extract.  There is a ban on any mining in Antarctica because of the Madrid Protocol, part of the Antarctic Treaty. This can be reviewed from 2048 and there is potential for development in the future.
Tourism	Around 50,000 tourists per year visit Antarctica by ship and over 40,000 land on its shores in maximum boatloads of 100.  It is a carefully managed industry with great efforts made to minimise impacts through legislation and education.  Ships will pollute Antarctic waters, and even well-meaning tourists can impact on shore by trampling vegetation or disturbing wildlife.

- 34 a The issue was resolved when 12 nations signed up to the Antarctic Treaty. This formalised and guaranteed free access and research rights so that all countries could work together for the common causes of scientific research and exchange of ideas.
  - b Main features of the Treaty include:
    - applies to the area south of 60° south latitude
    - stipulates that Antarctica should be used exclusively for peaceful purposes
    - guarantees continued freedom to conduct scientific research promotes international scientific cooperation including the exchange of research plans and requires that results of research are made freely available
    - states that no activities will enhance or diminish previously asserted positions with respect to territorial claims; no new or enlarged claims can be made
    - prohibits nuclear explosions and disposal of radioactive waste
    - provides for inspection by observers (designated by any party) of ships, stations etc.

- requires parties to give advance notice of their expeditions
- has been recognised as one of the most successful international agreements

35

- The negotiation of the Protocol followed many years of international talks on controlling mineral resource activities in Antarctica.
- The Antarctic Minerals Convention in 1988 proposed that it may be possible for mining to go ahead in Antarctica, providing it was consistent with the protection of the environment.
- Australia and France refused to ratify the Minerals Convention and made a separate proposal that led to the Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty (the Madrid Protocol).
- Pressure from the environmental NGO Greenpeace, as part of the Antarctic and Southern Ocean Coalition (ASOC), was also instrumental in establishing the Madrid Protocol.
- The Protocol:
  - designates Antarctica as a 'natural reserve, devoted to peace and science'
  - establishes environmental principles for the conduct of all activities
  - prohibits mining or any mineral resource exploration, including exploration of the continental shelf
  - o subjects all activities to being assessed for their environmental impacts
- 36 A worked example can be found in your workbook.
- **37** a Mean = 460
  - b Mode = 330
  - c Median = 389
  - The range of values created by the three measures indicates that choosing which measure to use needs to be done carefully.
  - Using the mean all values are included and given equal weighting, but the extremely large value for 1986 has clearly skewed the mean.
  - Using the mode here the most common value is close to the 'middle' of the range of the data. This can become problematic if there are several modal values.
  - Using the median tells us the value of the result that falls in the middle of the distribution. It can be advantageous to ignore any extreme values at either end of the distribution, but there may be situations where this is useful.

# **Exam-style questions**

Exam-style set 1

1

Allow 1 mark per valid point with extra mark(s) for developed points. (AO1) (4 marks)

- Typically flows of capital include all money that moves between countries (1) which is used for investment, trade or production (1d).
- Over the last 50 years global financial markets have been deregulated leading to increased freedom for capital to flow across borders (1).

- Growth of TNCs, cheaper global transport and global communications (1) have increased flows of capital (1).
- Some suggest that investment now flows from 'core' (HIC) countries to 'peripheral' countries (MIC/LIC) (1), with profits flowing back to the core (1).

Other themes that could be included: aid, remittances.

It is feasible some answers may address the literal definition of 'capital' and refer to the transfer of any physical resource, e.g. buildings, factories, machinery etc.

#### 2

### AO3: Level 2 (4-6 marks); Level 1 (1-3 marks)

- There is a significant difference in the amount of steel produced in both years. Almost three times as much steel was produced by the countries listed in 2019 as by those in 2001.
- There has been a significant change in the rank order of countries between 2001 and 2019. Iran and Turkey were not in the top 10 in 2001; Turkey has risen seven ranks and Iran has risen by 12 ranks.
- India is the only other country that has moved up the rankings, from eight to two, and it has seen a four-fold increase in production.
- Three countries have the same rank in both years, but they have all seen an increase
  in steel production. This is minimal for Brazil, but South Korea's production has
  increased by about a third, while Chinese production is about six times higher in 2019.
- China dominated global production in both years. It accounted for about a third of the total produced by the countries listed in 2001, but this proportion almost doubled to almost two-thirds of the total by 2019.

(There is no credit for explaining or offering reasons in this skills question.)

#### 3

#### AO1, AO2: Level 2 (4-6 marks); Level 1 (1-3 marks)

- Figure 1.4 shows clear differences in both the number and proportion of people with access to the internet. In many countries in North America, Northern Europe and East Asia over four-fifths of the population have access. These include HICs like USA, Germany and Japan.
- There seems to be a correlation between the wealth of individuals in a country and the proportion of people with access to the internet, as almost all the countries where less than one-fifth have internet access are in Africa (e.g. Congo and Uganda), South Asia (e.g. Bangladesh) and Southeast Asia (e.g. Indonesia).
- However, as many poorer countries have very large populations, the percentage of users may be low but the total number of users may be very large, for example, in India.
- Figure 1.4 highlights inequalities in terms of flows of information in a number of ways. In the twenty-first century the internet/world wide web is increasingly the primary source of information in many areas of life: many education systems rely on online resources; many health systems offer online services; in consumer societies the internet often contains information on how individuals can access the best value for money; the internet is increasingly the source of official information about services in a country.

Clearly the more limited the level of access to the internet the more limited people's
access to information is, and vice versa, leading to increased inequalities. Those with
internet access can often access information that can improve their quality of
life/standard of living while those without cannot.

#### 4

### AO1, AO2: Level 4 (16-20 marks); Level 3 (11-15 marks); Level 2 (6-10 marks); Level 1 (1-5 marks)

This is an opinion-based answer, which means you must form and express a view as to the validity of the statement after examining the evidence on all sides.

#### Indicative content:

- Possible ways in which the UN may have created growth and stability:
  - The Charter of 1945 was signed by 50 countries with the aim of maintaining global peace and security – since the end of the Second World War there has not been another military conflict of the scale of the First and Second World Wars.
  - The WHO (part of the UN) has led global efforts to tackle (and eradicate) some infectious diseases e.g. the eradication of smallpox by 1980. Countries with high levels of life-limiting infectious diseases struggle to develop economically; reducing the disease burden allows better economic growth.
  - UNICEF (part of the UN) is credited with helping many tens of millions of children globally. It has played a role in saving the lives of around 100 million children since 1990. The more children that are able to live healthy lives, receive an education and survive into adulthood can then play a productive role in a country's economy and help economic growth.
  - Some argue that the UN has played a role in the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and although nuclear weapons have not been eradicated, there has been some progress to nuclear disarmament which may have led to increased stability since the end of the Cold War.
- Ways in which the UN may have led to inequalities and injustices:
  - Some say that a limited number of rich and powerful countries (especially the five permanent members of the UN Security Council) hold too much influence which may have led to inequalities or injustices in some countries. For example, these countries choose the Secretary-General by a secret ballot therefore, some argue the Secretary-General can never be truly independent of the five permanent council members, inevitably leading to inequality.
  - Some say that the UN can reinforce injustices for individuals in some countries, as they feel the UN represents the interests of the governments of countries and not the interests of the citizens of those countries.
  - Some people are critical of the role of the UN in a number of conflicts over recent decades and feel that its actions, or inactions, may have contributed to injustices or inequalities for people in places like Rwanda or Iraq.
  - Some feel that the UN focuses too much on trying to provide immediate rather than long-term solutions to problems. For example, handing out emergency food in a famine saves lives in the short term, but unless a long-term solution is found the people may become more dependent on food aid than they were prior to the famine.

An answer can come to any conclusion as long as it is supported by relevant and valid points in the preceding argument.

### Exam-style set 2

1

### Allow 1 mark per valid point with extra mark(s) for developed points. (AO1) (4 marks)

- In 1994 the IWC established the Southern Ocean Whale Sanctuary (1), where it banned all types of commercial whaling (1).
- Until 2018 Japan continued to hunt whales inside the Sanctuary in accordance with a provision in the IWC charter permitting whaling for the purposes of scientific research (1).
- By protecting whales and their breeding and feeding grounds the IWC has ensured the conservation of whale species (1), which are major regulators in the Southern Ocean ecosystem (1d).
- The status of the Southern Ocean Sanctuary is reviewed every ten years (1).
- In 2018, the IWC Florianopolis Declaration made protection of whales from commercial whaling indefinite (1) to allow the recovery of populations to pre-industrial whaling levels (1d)

2

### AO3: Level 2 (4-6 marks); Level 1 (1-3 marks)

- Figure 1.5 shows that there has been an overall increase in tourist numbers, following some fluctuation. Over three times more people visited in 2018–19 than in 2002–03.
- Of the total number of tourists the amount who have actually gone on land has increased the most, while the proportion of those not actually going on land has remained similar throughout the time period.
- Over the first 6 years tourist numbers increased by about 30,000, but then fell by about 20,000 over the next 4 years, with numbers then doubling between 2011–12 and 2018–19.
- Figure 1.6 shows that most of the tourists, about a third, came from the USA.
- Between them, China and the USA accounted for around half of all tourists.
- The USA accounts for more visitors than Australia, Germany and the UK combined.
- Of the countries listed Switzerland has the fewest tourists by far, with less than half as many as France, the next largest contributor.

(There is no credit for explaining or offering reasons in this skills question.)

3

### AO1, AO2: Level 2 (4-6 marks); Level 1 (1-3 marks)

- Average temperatures fluctuate quite widely from year to year in Antarctica.
- The anomaly has a range from -0.5°C to +2°C.
- The anomaly generally stayed close to the mean until 1980.
- The anomaly continued to fluctuate but overall became increasingly positive from the mid-1980s showing overall that the continent is warming.
- A rise in average temperatures will cause ice to melt.
- In Antarctica there is both sea ice and land ice melting sea ice does not cause sea levels to rise but melting land ice will cause a rise in sea levels.

- This temperature change will have both regional threats for Antarctica and global impacts.
- In Antarctica itself, rising temperatures will cause:
  - thinning of ice sheets (e.g. in West Antarctica) isostatic uplift
  - changes in distribution of wildlife, e.g. penguins
  - increased colonisation by plants
  - decline in abundance of species relying on cold, upwelling currents, such as krill, which in turn will upset the equilibrium of the food web

#### 4

## AO1, AO2: Level 4 (16-20 marks); Level 3 (11-15 marks); Level 2 (6-10 marks); Level 1 (1-5 marks)

This is an opinion-based answer, which means you must form and express a view as to the validity of the statement after examining the evidence on all sides.

#### Indicative content:

- Global governance is the process of designating laws, rules or regulations intended to manage global affairs, e.g. international trade or shipping.
- But most decisions in international relations are made by individual governments using state sovereignty (as defined by the 'Westphalian' notion of it).
- In recent years governance has focused on a number of international issues:
  - o reducing environmental problems
  - trade and investment inequities (see World Trade Organization)
  - reduction of poverty
  - o human rights violations
  - civil conflict
  - financial instability
- For each of these issues rules, agreements, international laws etc. have been set e.g. Paris Agreement, Agenda 21, Madrid Protocol but individual nations have to agree and when large players, e.g. USA, Russia, China, do not ratify they have less worth.
- Despite the role of the UN, it is not a world government with the political authority to exercise jurisdiction over executive, judicial, legislative or military affairs for all countries.
- The UN has a mainly advisory role with its purpose being to foster cooperation between state governments rather than exerting authority over them.
- International organisations such as the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) take responsibility for managing specific aspects of an interrelated world by regulating the rules of trade or dealing with international public health issues.
- Millennium Development Goals and Sustainable Development Goals can setting goals be as effective as establishing laws and rules?
- Another approach is to consider what would happen if there were no international laws
  or agreements concerning matters that affect all nations, such as governance of the
  global commons or control of climate change. Without international laws and
  agreements, over-exploitation of resources leading to depletion, increased levels of
  environmental degradation and conflict are likely to occur.

### Additional essay question

AO1, AO2: Level 4 (16-20) marks; Level 3 (11-15 marks); Level 2 (6-10 marks); Level 1 (1-5 marks)

This is an opinion-based answer, which means you must form and express a view that is supported with evidence. The answer must express a view as to whether the search for mineral resources is certain or unavoidable. Any conclusion is valid as long as the supporting evidence is feasible.

#### Indicative content:

In support of the view that it is inevitable:

- Much of the global economy relies on industries that currently rely on energy derived mainly from fossil fuels. The size of the global economy is likely to continue to expand and countries will continue to industrialise. Supplies of fossil fuels are finite, and as current reserves become scarce their price will increase. Therefore, the pressure will lead to the search for new supplies of energy in Antarctica.
- Global population is increasing rapidly, especially in already large low- and middle-income countries. With increased numbers of people alongside a growing demand for consumer goods, pressure for raw materials will lead to the search for new supplies of resources in Antarctica.
- The above presupposes that when current legislation protecting Antarctica is revisited, countries will not be able to agree on new policies to protect the continent and prevent the search for resources in the future.
- Climate change will mean that Antarctica will become less inhospitable in the future, therefore making the prospect of searching for minerals more economically feasible.

#### In support of the view that is not inevitable:

- There are almost 30 years until parts of the current Antarctic treaty system are able to be modified. In this time it is likely that ever-increasing concerns about the negative impact of humans on planet Earth will ensure there is enough political pressure at least to maintain, or even increase, the current levels of protection for Antarctica.
- There are signs that some industries/countries are significantly reducing their reliance on fossil fuels and other non-renewable natural resources, therefore there may not be a need to find new sources of such resources.
- Is it likely that the world would risk the inevitable conflict that would arise should any restrictions of mineral exploitation were lifted in Antarctica?